

United States Department of the Interior

TAKE PRIDE

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Las Cruces District Office 1800 Marquess Street Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005 www.blm.gov/nm

In Reply Refer To: NMNM 131403 2800 (L0310)

April 15, 2015

Dear Interested Party:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared an Environmental Assessment to analyze the effects of issuing a right-of-way (ROW) for the construction of a new 3-Phase 24kV overhead electric distribution feeder powerline in Doña Ana County, New Mexico. This new powerline will allow El Paso Electric (EPE) Company to upgrade electric service (see project location map); thus providing reliability and capacity for the growing demand for energy between Centennial High School, the Sonoma Ranch Subdivision, and Talavera Subdivision.

Under the authority of Title V of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, EPE submitted a ROW application to the BLM to obtain legal access to construct, operate and maintain a powerline across public land. The 3-Phase 24kV line, approximately 2 miles in length and 25 feet wide will connect (tie) the existing Salopek 24 distribution feeder (NMNM 052922) to the Arroyo 23 distribution feeder (NMNM 115695). Construction will consist of approximately 45 poles, varying in size from 45 feet to 60 feet. Span distances will vary due to terrain and weight of the powerline.

The EA (DOI-BLM-NM-L000-2014-0103-EA) is posted on BLM's website at www.blm.gov/nm/lascruces. We would like to hear about your issues and concerns. Comments on the project must be submitted by May 4, 2015. There are several ways in which you can submit your comments on the proposed project:

- File your comments electronically by sending them to: BLM_NM_LCDO_Comments@blm.gov. Please include "EPE 3-Phase 24kV Feeder Powerline EA Comments" in the subject line of your email.
- Mail your comments to: "EPE 3-Phase 24kV Feeder Powerline EA Project", BLM Las Cruces District Office, ATTN: Christine Legarda, 1800 Marquess Street, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment - including your personal identifying information - may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

If you have any questions about this Project, please contact Christine Legarda, Realty Specialist, at (575) 525-4382. We appreciate your participation in this proposed Project.

Sincerely,

/s/David L. Wallace

David L. Wallace Assistant District Manager Division of Multi-Resources

1 Enclosure